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## **In the Loop**

### **A Summary of the May 2023 English Commission Meeting**

#### **Committee and Other Reports**

1. San Francisco Presbytery
  - a. Staffing – Rochelle Shaw resigned as Stated Clerk as did two administrative support staff which leaves the Presbytery shorthanded with only three Executive Partners on staff.
  - b. Pastor Don described the events that led to the Co-Moderators of Presbytery sending out a letter of apology. Language translators had completed their work at a recent Presbytery meeting; however, the meeting continued long after the translators were dismissed thereby excluding the non-English speaking segment of the voting body from full participation.
2. Mission and Evangelism
  - a. Whitney Tom, who works in the field of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), presented on the topic of inclusive language.
  - b. Afterschool Programs in Chinatown – Guided by a recommendation from the Mission Study, Kevin Feeley surveyed the availability and types of afterschool programs and services for children and youth in the neighborhood. The effort was focused on information gathering and assessing whether there are unmet needs in the community.
  - c. Food Pantry - On May 13th, S.F. Food Bank staff came to discuss how to transition back to the Farmer's Market mode of food distribution. June 3<sup>rd</sup> is the date of the annual site visitation by the Department of Aging and Adult Services.
3. Resource
  - a. Membership - The English Worshiping Community has 111 active members. David and Kathy Lee requested a transfer of membership to First Presbyterian Church in Berkeley.
  - b. Building Use - Cameron House will be renting space again for seven weeks in summer for youth programming. Per the agreement, Cameron House will provide their own janitorial service, proof of liability insurance, and staff assigned to open and close the church building daily.
4. Worship & Nurture
  - a. Retreat – The event is planned for September 1-2 at Mercy Center in Burlingame. June 7<sup>th</sup> is the working deadline to finalize room reservations. The cost is \$160 per person including a subsidy of \$25. Rev. Leslie Veen has expressed interest in serving as retreat facilitator.
  - b. Communion – The committee recommended a return to serving Communion by intinction in September subject to guidance from the Department of Public Health.
  - c. Session Agenda – The committee will propose to have two all-church worship services this year in October (World Communion Sunday) and November (170<sup>th</sup> church anniversary). It was suggested that the 170<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration include an all-church lunch.

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- d. Attendance during April
  - 4/2 – 81 total; 51 in person (Palm Sunday)
  - 4/6 – 12 in person (Maundy Thursday)
  - 4/9 – 90 total; 67 in person (Easter Sunday)
  - 4/16 – 66 total; 38 in person
  - 4/23 – 59 total; 22 in person
  - 4/30 – 62 total; 23 in person
- 5. Deacons
  - a. Regarding the weekly Prayer List, efforts continue to remind EWC members to request prayers through the "englishdeacons@pccsf.org" e-mail, rather than through personal or informal channels.
  - b. Pre-pandemic, the Deacons sponsored Saturday night Potlucks, which were popular and well-attended. The Deacons will re-start this activity this summer.
- 6. Pastor's Report
  - a. Break-ins occurred at CH and the Chinese Historical Society over the first weekend in May. Computer equipment and other items were taken.
  - b. Pastor Don served as guest preacher at the Chinese Christian Union's Good Friday service. He spent time with Rev. Sebastian Ong for a debriefing about the service and sermon.
- 7. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Budget Notes
    - 1) T-shirts - \$566.00 in donations was collected for the shirts. The funds will be transferred back to the M&E budget.
    - 2) One Great Hour of Sharing – Over \$1,900.00 was donated this season and will be forwarded to the Presbytery.
  - b. Income to Expense Report for April and Year-to-Date 2023

	April 2023	Year to Date
Total Receipts (A)	\$18,728.75	\$60,478.23
Total Expenses (B)	\$16,698.02	\$74,045.54
<b>Surplus/Deficit = (A-B)</b>	<b>\$2,030.73</b>	<b>(\$13,567.31)</b>

### New Business

#### Interim Ministry Contract

- a. The Elders met in closed session to discuss and act on personnel matters.
- b. After the meeting resumed in open session, the Elders informed Pastor Don of their decision to renew the contract for Interim Ministry beginning June 1, 2023.
- c. **To Do**: Carl Jew will meet with Pastor Don to review the substantive changes to the next contract set to begin in June 2023.

### Calendar Dates

- June 1      *New Interim Ministry Contract Begins*
- June 4      *Communion & Sabbath Sunday*
- June 6      *M&E and W&N Committees*

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June 11	Resource Committee
June 11	PCC Session
June 18	<i>Juneteenth Service</i>
	Guest Preacher: Rev. Carmen Mason-Brown
June 18	<i>Father's Day</i>
June 20	English Commission
June 25	<i>Pride Service</i>
June 25	Board of Deacons
June 27	Nominating Committee
July 2	Communion & Sabbath Sunday
July 4	<i>Independence Day Holiday Observance</i>
July 4	M&E and W&N Committees (to be rescheduled)
July 9	Resource Committee
July 14	Pastor Don on study leave through July 21
July 18	English Commission
July 20	<i>Pastor Don's Birthday</i>
July 23	Board of Deacons
July 30	English Consistory